

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 844
By Wilder

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mr. Troy W. Tomlin of
Fayette County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Mr. Troy W. Tomlin; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tomlin was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who was active throughout his distinguished life in the legal, political, financial, religious and community activities of Fayette County; and

WHEREAS, a longtime resident of Oakland, Troy Tomlin was a highly respected member of the community who treated everyone with equal dignity and respect, regardless of the person's rank in life or social position; and

WHEREAS, born in 1906 to James Monroe and Sarah Tomerlin Tomlin, Mr. Tomlin attended public schools in Fayette County and preparatory school at McTyier Academy in McKenzie; he continued his education at the West Tennessee State Teacher's College and the University of Memphis Law School, where he earned his L.L.B. degree in 1937; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tomlin was engaged in the general practice of law in the State and Federal Courts in West Tennessee, and served with probity for 52 remarkable years as a Fayette County Attorney until his retirement on January 31st of this year; and

WHEREAS, his illustrious tenure as County Attorney is believed to be the longest of any person in that capacity in the State; the County Commission elected him consecutively every year for over fifty years and he rarely drew an opposing vote or objection; and

WHEREAS, widely known as one of the most astute legal minds in West Tennessee and this State, Troy Tomlin also served Oakland with distinction as City Attorney since 1937, and for a time as the Postmaster of that fair town; and

WHEREAS, ever mindful of his civic duty to the state he so loved, Mr. Tomlin was a delegate to the Tennessee State Constitutional Convention for two terms in 1959 and again in 1965, dispensing his vast knowledge and sage advice in pursuit of good government; and

WHEREAS, Troy Tomlin was a Bank Director of the Somerville Bank & Trust Company and longtime member of the Somerville Lions Club, where he rendered impeccable service as past president; and

WHEREAS, he was an innovative, progressive man of character and integrity, and his word was his bond; and

WHEREAS, an exemplary community leader whose goodness knew no bounds, Troy Tomlin was active in a number of civic, legal and professional organizations, including the Democratic Executive Committee, of which he served as Chairman for a number of years; he was a 32nd Degree Mason and had been a member of the Somerville Masonic Lodge for over fifty years; and

WHEREAS, he evinced his devout religious faith as a member of the Oakland United Methodist Church for much of his life, serving with distinction as a Church Steward, Lay Leader, Lay Speaker, Sunday School Superintendent and Sunday School Teacher. In recent years he became a member of the Oakland Presbyterian Church, where his wife served as organist for a number of years; and

WHEREAS, deeply devoted to his family, Mr. Tomlin always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife, the former Mary Evelyn Murrell; his daughter, Polly Jenness; two sons, Gordon Murrell Tomlin and William Mayo Tomlin; eight grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; one great-great-granddaughter; and a niece, Louise Cooley; and

WHEREAS, an avid supporter of the University of Tennessee football program and the Atlanta Braves, Troy Tomlin was a familiar figure in Somerville at the County Courthouse and will be deeply missed by those who knew him; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tomlin leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and distinction in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Mr. Troy W. Tomlin, reflecting fondly upon his singular career in law, his stalwart commitment to public service, and his impeccable character as a professional and human being.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our deepest sympathy and offer our condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Tomlin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.